

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6234
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AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0944

PASS AID

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, EAID, OAU, SO
SUBJ: GSDR'S ANTI-CUBAN EFFORTS, RELIEF PROBLEMS

REF: STATE 107365

1. DURING THE MEETING APRIL 27 WITH PRESIDENT SIAD, REPORTED
SEPTEL, HE ASKED FOR US COOPERATION IN REDUCING CUBAN PRESTIGE
IN UP COMING INTERNATIONAL FORA. THE SOMALI PRESIDENT SAID
HIS MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WAS ABOUT TO DISPATCH TEAMS
TO AGITATE FOR CONDEMNATION OF THE CUBAN ROLE IN AFRICA AT
THE JULY OAU MEETING. HE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE UNITED
STATES USE ITS INFLUENCE WITH FRIENDLY AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO
SUPPORT THAT EFFORT. HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOMALI
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC WAS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT CUBAN INFLUENCE
IN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM). SIAD SAID THE GSDR WOULD
SPARE NO EFFORT TO POINT OUT THAT FAR FROM BEING
NON-ALIGNED, CUBA PLAYED A DIRECT ROLE IN IMPLEMENTING
MOSCOW'S POLICIES AND SUPPORTING THE PROGRAMS OF THE
WARSAW PACT. HE SAID SOMALIA WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN
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THE NAVANA NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT. ONE WHO GOES TO THE
HOUSE OF THE CRIMINAL, HE SAID, MUST BE CONSIDERED A
CRIMINAL HIMSELF. IN THE SAME VEIN HE SAID THE GSDR
WOULD BOYCOTT THE WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL. HE HOPED THE
GSDR WOULD BE ABLE TO CONVINCE OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES
TO DO THE SAME. MOSCOW WOULD HAVE ITS PUPPETS THERE,
SIAD CONTINUED, BUT AS LONG AS THEY ARE RECOGNIZED AS

MOSCOW'S OWN CREATIONS, IT WOULD DO NO HARM.

2. TURNING TO RELIEF PROBLEMS IN SOMALIA, SIAD SAID THE SITUATION CONTINUED TO BE GRAVE. THE AMBASSADOR MENTIONED THE EFFORTS OF THE UNCHR TEAM AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS. THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE REALIZED OTHER TEAMS HAD SEEN SOME OF THE DISPLACED PERSON CAMPS, BUT THAT IT WAS NECESSARY FOR THE EMBASSY TO INSPECT AT FIRST HAND SOME OF THESE SITES IN ORDER FOR THE USG TO SUPPORT CONTRIBUTIONS FOR SOMALI RELIEF. SIAD INSTRUCTED MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR GENERAL MOHAMED SHERIF, WHO WAS PRESENT, TO ENSURE THAT EMBASSY OFFICERS WERE ABLE TO SEE THE CAMPS. THE AMBASSADOR TOOK THE OCCASION TO NOTE THAT IN RESPONSE TO THE REQUESTS OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE, WE HAD UNDER CONSIDERATION AN AMENDMENT TO OUR PL-480 PROGRAM WHICH WOULD HELP THE GSDR MEET ITS ANTICIPATED SHORT-FALL FOR EDIBLE OIL. THE SOMALI PRESIDENT EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR THAT STEP.

LOUGHRAN

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